



NOTICE OF PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

DRAFT REMOVAL ACTION WORKPLAN

PROPOSED SOUTH REGION ELEMENTARY SCHOOL #5

HUNTINGTON PARK, CALIFORNIA

Public Comment Period: November 13 to December 17, 2008

WHAT IS BEING PROPOSED?

A draft plan to remove contaminated soil from Los Angeles Unified School District's (LAUSD) proposed South Region Elementary School #5 (Site) located at 3232 Saturn Avenue in Huntington Park is available for public review and comment. The plan, called a draft Removal Action Workplan, or RAW, details how LAUSD plans to remove soil contaminated with organochlorine pesticides (OCPs) and lead from the 5.8-acre Site.

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is responsible for overseeing environmental reviews and cleanup actions of proposed sites for new schools and existing school expansion projects throughout the state. DTSC will ensure that mitigation and cleanup activities for this project are conducted in accordance with state and federal laws and regulations.

The Site was originally undeveloped land in 1902. By 1928, southwest portions of the Site were developed into residential properties. Currently, the Site consists of 34 residential properties and includes 83 structures such as single-family residences, multi-family residences and/or associated garages and storage sheds. LAUSD is still in the process of acquiring the properties for project use. The proposed Site is bordered by Newell Street on the east, Saturn Avenue on the north, Alaska Avenue on the west, and residential parcels on the south. The environmental investigations recently completed at the Site detected elevated concentrations of lead and OCPs in shallow soils around 23 structures located on the Site. The source of the OCPs has been identified as termiticides used to treat termites. Lead occurs naturally in Southern California soil or has been used in paint until 1978, when the federal laws changed to restrict its use. As a result of the environmental investigations, DTSC recommended that a plan be developed to cleanup the contaminated soil prior to site development. The draft RAW proposes that 2,476.3 cubic yards (about 186 truckloads) of lead and OCP contaminated soil be removed in a manner that reduces the potential to generate particulates and dust. The contaminated soil will be excavated and removed off-site for disposal at a state licensed and approved Disposal and/or Treatment Facility.

Notice of Exemption (NOE): DTSC has prepared a draft NOE pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for this project which states that the project will not have a negative effect on the human health and the environment.

HOW DO I PARTICIPATE?

The interested community is provided an opportunity to learn more about the project and provide comments to DTSC about the draft RAW during a thirty (30) day public comment period that starts on November 13 and ends on December 17, 2008. Your comments may be submitted in writing to Mr. Juan Osornio, Project Manager, DTSC, 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630. Comments must be postmarked by **December 17, 2008**.

WHERE DO I GET MORE INFORMATION?

A copy of the draft RAW and other project documents are available for review at the Huntington Park Library, 6518 Miles Avenue, Huntington Park; State Street Elementary School, 3211 Santa Ana Street, South Gate; Miles Avenue Elementary School, 6720 Miles Avenue, Huntington Park and at www.laschools.org. Also, all site documents and the full Administrative Record pertaining to this project are available for review during office hours at the DTSC Regional Records Office, 5796 Corporate Avenue, Cypress, CA 90630. Contact Ms. Julie Johnson at (714) 484-5337 for an appointment.

CONTACT:

If you have any questions or wish to discuss the project, please contact Ms. Christina Fu, DTSC Public Participation Specialist, at (818) 717-6574 or email: cfu@dtsc.ca.gov or Mr. Juan Osornio, DTSC Project Manager, at (714) 484-5498 or email: josornio@dtsc.ca.gov. For DTSC media inquiries, please contact Ms. Jeanne Garcia at (818) 717-6573 or email: jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov. For information on DTSC, visit our web site: www.dtsc.ca.gov.

Notice to Hearing-Impaired Individuals: You can obtain additional information about the site by using the California State Relay Service at 1 (888) 877-5378 (TDD). Ask to speak to Christina Fu at (818) 717-6574 regarding the project.